

INTELLOFAX 4

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLYCOUNTRY Czechoslovakia REPORTTOPIC 1. SNB Border Guard Company in Lazne Kynzvalt2. Reorganization of Czech Border Guard Units.

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SNB Border Guard Company in Lazne Kynzvalt.

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1. Until 8 December 1950, SNB Border Guard Company [redacted] was stationed in Lazne Kynzvalt (N 51/P 51) and was subordinate to SNB Border Guard Bn [redacted] in Karlovy Vary (N 51/P 69). Like all border guard units, the battalion was subordinate to Unit [redacted] in Prague. The three other companies of the battalion were located in Cheb (N 51/P 37), [redacted] (N 51/P 10), and Kraslice (N 51/K 30), respectively. [redacted]

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2. Company [redacted] consisted of four border guard platoons, each of about 40 soldiers, which were located in Tri Sekery (N 50/P 56), Vysoka (N 50/P 46), Palic (N 51/P 36) and Stary Hroznatov (N 51/P 36). The platoons were armed with Czech model 48-A submachine guns and three Czech model 26 light machine guns. [redacted]

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Reorganization of Czech Border Guard Units.

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3. The Czech border guard units were to be completely reorganized beginning 1 January 1951. New border guard battalions along the border would be activated with soldiers who had entered service in 1950. The units would wear red collar patches and red arm bands, to which a badge showing a dog's head would later be added. They would receive infantry and special training in a three-month course. The cadre personnel for the new units would be furnished by the SNB. \*\*
4. The headquarters of one border guard battalion was scheduled to be stationed in the former customs police building in Cheb. The battalion would have border guard companies in the forestry house of Svaty Kriz (N 51/P 37); in the ruins of the castle of Stary Hroznatov; in Mytina (N 51/P 36); Kozly (N 51/P 36), and in the textile factory of Slapany (N 51/P 36). Another battalion would be stationed in Zandov (N 51/P 46), with its companies in Lohacuser (N 50/P 45); Mohelno (N 50/P 45); Dylen, 4 km northeast of Mohelno; and Oldrichov (N 50/P 46). \*\*
5. The border guard units would be quartered in buildings already available or in wooden two-unit buildings, about 12 x 38 meters, some of which were still under construction. The wooden buildings, capable of quartering about 120 men, were to house one company with orderly room, kitchen, etc. The buildings were situated about 3 km apart and connected with the battalion headquarters by field

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telephone. \*\*

- 6. Border guard duty would be performed by sentries with dogs, patrolling the border at all times. To materialize this plan, the border guard units already existing were to receive reinforcements. From some localities, such as Palic, border guard detachments would be withdrawn and placed on a stand-by basis. Watchtowers would no longer be constructed and those existing would no longer be occupied, since they did not prove an effective means of guarding the border.
- 7. In SEB school conducting five-month courses of instruction was located in the former Czech 52nd Arty Regt Barracks, Bruntal (P 50/N 99), until October 1949.

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Comment. A reorganization of the Czechoslovakian border guard troops was already presaged by the construction of wooden barracks buildings along the Czech-Bavarian border. It was previously believed that the construction of these buildings was preparatory to reinforcement of the Czech border guard troops.



The location of these units close to the border will result in a substantial intensification of border control.

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